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# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE RELATING TO NATIONAL SECURITY

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21 July 1964

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Pakistan: Rawalpindi is taking a more neutral position on Southeast Asian matters.

President Ayub, in response to a recent question from an interviewer about Pakistan's position in the event of a confrontation between the US and China in Laos or Vietnam, reportedly said: "I don't see why we should get involved. Our policy is to avoid war unless we are attacked."

Ayub's statement reflects the standard line that Pakistan is too exposed to attack by India's growing forces to participate in any SEATO defensive effort. He is probably aware that this statement will have a favorable impact in Communist China, which has supported Pakistan in the Kashmir dispute since Chou En-lai's visit there last February.

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Ayub recently spoke harshly about SEATO to Iranian Foreign Minister Aram. He also stressed his belief that China does not plan to attack India and noted that Peiping had ceased its propaganda attacks against the Shah's government. Aram confirmed that this propaganda ceased about six months ago and stated that he believes Ayub is responsible.

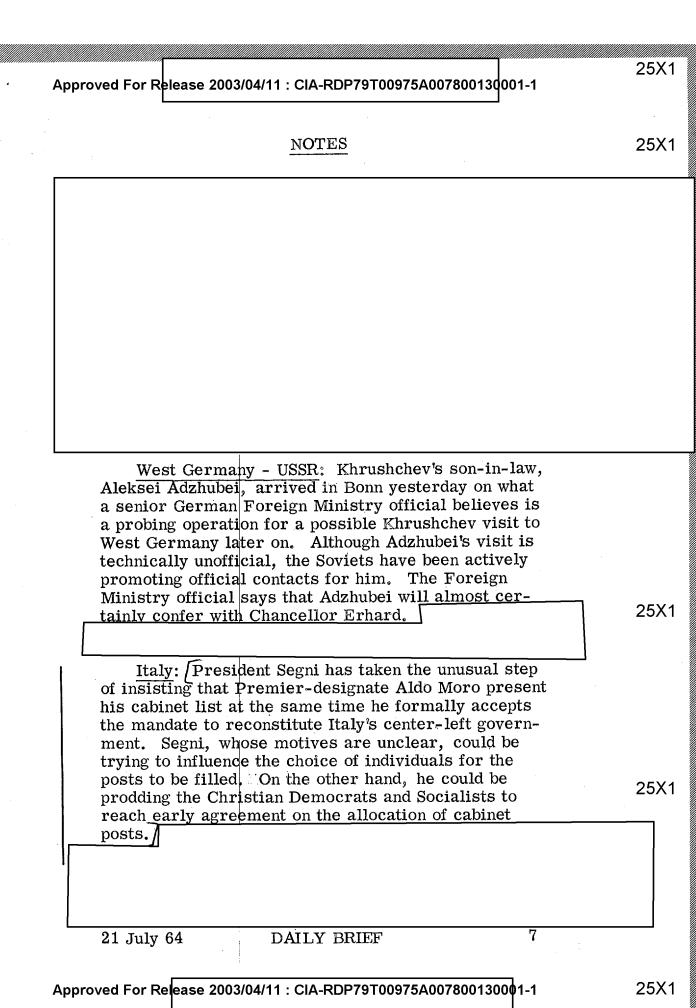
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DAILY BRIEF

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